

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

Central Intelligence Agency



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Executive Registry

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: Creative Problem Solving

1. The intelligence problems the Agency faces continue to grow in number and complexity. Responding to these varied challenges puts a premium on our ability to develop a continuing stream of innovative solutions. We can use all the good ideas we can get, and it is crucial that we be prepared to act quickly on the most promising. This means that we do not subject occasional flashes of inspiration to bureaucratic red tape and endless levels of review before they reach the appropriate decisionmaker. I have, therefore, established a top-level forum in the Agency for reviewing and reacting to new ideas concerning ways to accomplish our mission better. It consists of the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, the Executive Director, and myself. I invite each of you with ideas for new or better ways to respond to critical intelligence problems -- including improvements in the collection, production, or dissemination of intelligence or to the way we are organized to do our job -- to send them directly to one of the three of us. We will decide in short order on the merit and feasibility of such proposals and, if appropriate, arrange to implement them rapidly.

2. CIA already participates in two other programs designed to take maximum advantage of employee expertise and imagination. The Agency's cash awards program, administered by the Office of Personnel, recognizes suggestions and special accomplishments that result in savings to the Government. The Community-wide Production Enhancement Initiatives program, managed by the Intelligence Producers Council, explores potentially useful, but longer-term, initiative to improve the intelligence production process. I hope that by supplementing these formal programs with the informal one described above, we will be able to initiate some innovative short-term projects providing immediate intelligence payoff.

3. I urge you to share your ideas with us on how the Agency may do its job better. You are, after all, the ones who meet the challenges of Agency business head on every day and are, therefore, the best source of new concepts for solving pressing intelligence problems.

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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